

## WPAT SUMMARY March 16, 2007-Shoal Lake

### *Assiniboine Birdtail Breakout Group*

Group Members: Jeff Howard (UARCD); Guy Huberdeau-(UARCD, RM of Ellice); Roger Baird-(RMNP); Dwight Stewart-(Town of Birtle); Roger Wilson-(RM of Birtle); Don Lewis-(RM of Archie); Rodney Ashcroft-(Birtle Ag Society); Robbie Craig-(UARCD, PMT member).

- Group realized there were some representatives who could either not be present or who were sitting with another watershed group. Some other possible representatives of the Assiniboine Birdtail Watershed group should include:
  - Other RM representatives for Shellmouth-Boulton, Russell, Silver Creek, Rossburn, Miniota, and Shoal Lake.
  - Other Town/Village representatives for St. Lazare, Russell, Binscarth.
  - PFRA-Pastures and Crown Lands
  - DFO
  - Provincial Depts.
  - First Nations
  - Ag Groups (KAP, MCPA, Assiniboine Valley Producers)
  - Tourism Corridor Group
  - NRO's
  - Planning Districts of Tri-Roads, Rossburn, Carlton Trail, Shoal Lake, Midwest, Trans Canada West)
  - Decker Hutterite Colony
  - Conservation subdistrict members
  
- Brainstorm of Interests and concerns (in no particular order)
  - Proper water flow/control from Shellmouth Dam
  - Tourism
  - Agricultural use
  - Town and municipal
  - Habitat
  - Wildlife- good and bad
  - Highways and railways/ infrastructure
  - Wetland preservation and healthy riparian zones
  - Quality of living
  - Water quality and quantity both surface and groundwater
  - Soil health
  - Need for testing and monitoring both water and soil
  - Intensive Agricultural uses and regulations
  - Cost benefit analysis, the next step/ costs of implementing
  - Removal and control of impediments to passage in waterways
  - Enforcement of the final plan/ recommended follow-ups
    - Will it have any teeth?
    - Who will enforce it?
  
  - Loss of rural population
  - Human impacts
  - Water treatment lagoons, and proper waste disposal

- Vision and hopeful solutions of the plan (no order of preference)
  - Proper management of the Shellmouth Dam
  - Sustainable land use
  - Properly managed drainage, and the enforcement thereof
  - Siltation solutions
  - Improved or maintained water quality.
    - More monitoring and develop a baseline.
      - Phosphorous and nitrogen levels
  - Location of livestock operations
  - Creek buffers for all Ag use
  - Enforcement of the plan
  - Proper communication and implementation of the plan is absolutely vital.

THE VISION: *To see a long-term sustainable landscape that maximizes the natural diversity of the environment and provides both economic and ecological opportunities now and for generations that follow.*

### *Shell River Breakout Group*

#### **Group Members:**

Kelvin Nerbas (R.M. of Shellmouth-Boulton)  
 Cheryl Osborne (Town of Roblin)  
 Donna Grassia (Louisiana Pacific Inc.)  
 Holly Urban (Louisiana Pacific Inc.)  
 Willie Brown (R.M. of Russell)  
 Marilena Kowalchuk (MHHC)  
 Cliff Herman (Rycker's Campground)  
 Andrea Gorda (LPCD)

#### **Uses/Interests Represented by the Group**

Each breakout group member offered various interests/uses within the Shell River Watershed at the March 16 WPAT meeting:

- Illegal drainage (its reasons, impacts and lack of enforcement)
- Municipal waste water treatment
- Community health concerns
- Cottage lot development along Lake of the Prairies and other surface waterbodies within the watershed
- Angling industry
- Recreation industry
- Reservoir management/regulation (specifically Shellmouth Dam)
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Analysis of various water impacts (availability/quality)
- Declining rural population

- Information gaps in area hydrology
- Water quality and quantity (surface and groundwater)
- Water ownership/rights
- Community driven planning processes
- Wetland loss
- Lack of universal/uniform water regulations and requirements for both corporations and agriculture
- The negation of improvement/maintenance of and planning for water quality within the headwaters by activities occurring in downstream portions of watershed
- Education and awareness of the value of water and water cycle impacts
- Ensuring that consumer chain is addressed beyond our watershed

### **Vision**

- Accountability for all watershed interests including agriculture, corporations and municipalities
- Enforcement of present legislation as a tool for water quality and quantity protection
- Comprehensive and effective legislation be a priority

### **Vision Statement**

That holistic (watershed, development, etc.) plans be developed and implemented with/for each land use scheme with all partners (agriculture, industry, local government, etc.) having a voice in improving and maintaining surface and groundwater quality, quantity and availability.